

**From:** Soscia.Marylou@epamail.epa.gov  
**Sent time:** 03/30/2009 05:01:30 PM  
**To:** Julie Carter <CARJ@critfc.org>  
**Subject:** RE: Water quality stuff  
**Attachments:** pic31393.gif

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Hey Julie:

Sorry I did not get back to you - see my answers below:

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Mary Lou Soscia  
Columbia River Coordinator  
US EPA - Region 10 - OWW  
805 S.W. Broadway, Suite 500  
Portland, OR 97205  
www.epa.gov/region10/columbia  
503.326.5873  
fax: 503.326.3399

▼ "Julie Carter" <CARJ@critfc.org>

"Julie Carter" <CARJ@critfc.org>

To

Marylou Soscia/R10/USEPA/US@EPA

03/26/2009 04:02 PM

cc

Subject

RE: Water quality stuff

Marylou,

Hey, how are things? I hope you have a few moments...

Tim Weaver asked me to update him on the status of all things water quality in the CRB. I'm going to put a little memo together and I thought you might be able to help me with the status of certain programs on the river.

What is the status of the Temperature TMDL?

The Temperature TMDL was stopped in 2003 after EPA issued a Preliminary Draft TMDL initially because the Corps and Bureau were concerned about the Snake River CWA litigation in the 9th Circuit - when that turned out favorably for the Corps, they then tried for about 4 years to work with us to change standards on the Columbia through the UAA process. That has also died, thank goodness. However, there seems to be a lackluster commitment to mainstream temperature issues. There are really only 3 things that can be done to improve temperature in the Columbia and Snake - 1- changes at Grand Coulee; 2 - Hells Canyon temperature control structures [not a part of the TMDL but possible through the FERC process] and 3 - take down the Lower Snake River dams.

EPA has not been able to get agreement on moving forward on the TMDL right now - so essentially it is still dead unless somebody else starts pushing on the temperature issue again - seems with climate change, people should be concerned but they are not right now.

And whatever happened to the momentum generated from that workshop 2 years ago where the Corps was seeking UAAs? Did that just die?

I do believe that the pendulum has swung on the standard changing momentum - thank goodness....

I also plan to give a little update on the Toxics Workgroup - anything new I should add?

We are working hard to follow up on the report, we have a toxics reduction workshop for watershed groups at the Umatilla Indian Reservation on May 13th however we have no funding for toxics reduction in the Basin between Bonneville Dam and Grand Coulee Dam so we are trying to figure out how we progress without any funding. Tell Tim, I will stop bad mouthing the MOAs if he can get us some of the that MOA money for toxics reduction.....

If there is any other issues/projects/workgroups that I should highlight, then please let me know. Heck, you could probably write this for me! :-)

We also have the Columbia River Toxics Reduction Working Group - coordinating people throughout the Basin to better assess and reduce toxics - they took the lead on the report - next meeting is June 2 in White Salmon - we are doing some monitoring this summer in the Columbia River - let me know what else you need.....

Anyway, any help you could give me would be greatly appreciated!

Julie

Julie A. Carter  
Policy Analyst, Policy Development and Litigation Support Dept.  
Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission  
729 N.E. Oregon St. Suite 200  
Portland, OR 97232  
General Line: 503.238.0667 x1392  
Direct Line: 503.736.3592  
Fax: 503.235.4228  
Cell: 503.997.6453  
Email: carj@critfc.org; jacarter5@aol.com  
Web: <http://www.critfc.org>

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